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# THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD

Reverend Doctor  
Edward Leen, C.S.Sp.

The Guidance Section of the  
High School Library

That Index Again . . .

News and Notes

Book Reviews

VOL. 15, NO. 3

DECEMBER, 1943



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## Contemporary Catholic Authors: Reverend Doctor Edward Leen, C.S.Sp.

By REVEREND WILLIAM H. RUSSELL,  
Catholic University of America

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The child born in Ireland on August 17, 1885 and baptized Edward on the same day, was destined to be captivated by rugby and naturalistic literature before he felt the depths of the tradition enshrined in St. Patrick's *Breastplate*:

Christ with me, Christ before me,  
Christ behind me, Christ within me,  
Christ beneath me, Christ within me,  
Christ at my right, Christ at my left,  
Christ in the fort,  
Christ in the chariot seat,  
Christ in the poop,  
Christ in the heart of everyone who  
thinks of me,  
Christ in the mouth of everyone who  
speaks to me,  
Christ in every eye that sees me,  
Christ in every ear that hears me.

Between 1898 and 1916 the habit of taking scholastic prizes became routine with rugged young Edward. His epochal year was 1908-09 which was spent in the novitiate of the Congregation of the Fathers of the Holy Ghost at Chevilly, near Paris. Here his dominant interest shifted to things spiritual. Philosophical studies occupied him from 1909-12. In 1916 he received the doctorate in theology, *summa cum laude*, in Rome. From 1916-19 he taught philosophy at Kimmage, Ireland, meanwhile earning the M.A. from the National University. After a year of sickness, 1920-22 were spent in Nigeria, giving him valuable missionary experience. In 1923 he was dean of

studies at Blackrock, a college of the Congregation in Ireland, and he was President of the college, 1925-31. He had begun giving spiritual lectures to nuns near Dublin in 1923, and for some years read Newman assiduously for style and thought. In 1933 he began the first of the manuscripts for the series of books examined in this article.

In 1939 Father Leen gave some lectures and retreats in the United States. He graciously talked to my own class in the Life of Christ at the Catholic University. The audience little guessed at that time that this medium built and apparently-frail-of-stature man had once been captain of a rugby team. As captain for Christ, all saw in his face the joy he felt in his work and his personal exemplification of his subject.

A certain difficulty attaches to the task of attempting to interpret or to brief the works of Father Leen. Scattered quotations do minimum justice to his wealth of insight. Many key sentences are indeed quotable and may give a summary view, but he is diffusive, rich, expansive. Long paragraphs abound, in which he protects and applies safeguards to his crisp, italicized sentences. What is apparent, however, in each paragraph is that the author has lived his subject, that he writes *ex abundantia cordis*.

The unifying theme merged into all of his works is that the humanity of Jesus is the basis for the spiritual life. He is



equipped to give the repeating reader a clear understanding of Catholic dogmas and of the Master. The influence of philosophy and theology is evidenced in each of his works. He is never scholastically dry. His mental framework is theological before he looks into the Gospels themselves. But he finds and uncovers from the Gospels the "life" for his flowing sentences.

First in order of appearance was his book *Progress Through Mental Prayer*. This book woke up earnest souls and classed him as a leading spiritual writer. It is a treatise on the theory of the spiritual life. The essentials of all spiritual advancement are here described, for his interest in spiritual progress. By the spiritual life we mean "cultivation of intimacy with God" (p. 9). The reason we fail to progress may be attributed to resistance to grace, yet there is also the fact that "great numbers of failures are to be attributed not to bad will but to an imperfect understanding" (p. 13). In attempting to analyze our failures we often stop at the symptoms; we fail to reach the "focus of infection". Christ the Divine Physician has diagnosed this focus: "It is 'self' in all its varying forms and manifestations" (p. 14). To rid ourselves of this infection we must understand the role of prayer. "That role is the development, through loving contemplation of the God-Man, of the fundamental dispositions of the Sacred Humanity" (p. 15).

It is not prayer alone that is treated in this volume. "Prayer, mortification and silence prepare the soul for the action of the Blessed Eucharist. Once the obstacles are cleared away from the soul this great Sacrament of union accomplishes in its perfection, that which is its

special effect, namely, the creation of a union of spirit between the soul and Jesus. Prayer prepares the way for this, for prayer that is good must have as its effect the gradual growth in self-abnegation. The presence of self-love in the soul is the great obstacle to the action of grace" (p. 11).

It is the view of the author that "naturally we have no taste for the things of the spiritual life" (p. 36). Hence the necessity of a strong determination to begin and to persevere in prayer. Among the various notions of prayer he allows space for the prayer of petition but he seems to prefer the view of St. Teresa that "prayer is only a friendly intercourse in which the soul converses alone with Him by Whom she knows that she is loved" (p. 24). "Prayer has been defined as familiar intercourse or conversation with God" (p. 52). "It is a being present with God and associating with Him, as we associate with those we love on earth" (p. 52). "Prayer consists in living with and conversing with Jesus with a view to becoming like to Him" (p. 56).

"We pray to God through Jesus not so much to get something as to become something, namely, to become 'conformable to the image of His Son'. The ultimate object of prayer is to glorify God and we glorify God by being as we should be" (p. 64). Those who are accustomed either to consider themselves to be good, or to pity themselves, or to fuss about themselves must recognize that the spiritual life is not a seeking after perfection in the sense that one sets "before him his own perfection as an object after which he is to strive" (p. 8-9). "It is God, not virtue, that must be loved since virtue is a means not an end" (p. 87).

The important observation made here by Father Leen lies in the shift of emphasis away from too much introspection and, instead, a concentration on the views, the qualities, the deeds of Jesus. One is to look at Him rather than at self. All creatures, including self, must be excluded as the final object of desire. "We can love creatures properly only when our love is disinterested. We love them as we should when we love them in God and for His sake" (p. 91). "Our Lord Who has created our human hearts, does not discountenance the natural affections of those hearts; on the contrary, He consecrates and blesses all. It is only when they become disorderly and usurp the place of God, in our souls, that they become displeasing to Him" (p. 204).

The effort to divest one of self must be constant (p. 94). Mortification helps to replace disorder by order, revolt against God by subjection to Christ (p. 237). "The body will not be a good servant until it has been consistently deprived of what it strictly has a right to" (p. 240). Self-abnegation, however, is not a merely negative thing. "As self in its destruction disappears from our view, the vision of Our Divine Lord takes its place. According as the soul ceases to be 'self-regarding' in its activities, it becomes 'God-regarding'" (p. 123).

Since prayer is conversation one must at first do most of the talking, but as progress takes place and self is eliminated, God becomes more active. One reaches then the "state of prayer", which is different from mental prayer itself (p. 151). "The development in divine life is of course entirely due to God, the sole source of the supernatural. According as the activity of God on the soul is being exercised in an increasing measure,

the soul's own activities diminish. Those of the Lord increase in proportion" (p. 62).

Silence is essential quite often because "the divine life in us is of extreme delicacy, . . . a very little thing can affect its vigor and diminish its glow" (p. 256). "Silence is not anti-social because when trained in this converse with the Lord, we can speak with greater effect and greater utility for our neighbors" (p. 271).

All that has been stated thus far may be viewed as preliminary to the author's main contention that for advancement in the spiritual life contact with the humanity of Jesus is essential. God is indeed the object in all prayer, yet God is spirit. "Our Lord shadows forth in a visible manner the perfection of God—His goodness, His benignity, His holiness, His mercy. Those attributes in a pure spirit we should have found very difficult to imagine or conceive. As clothed in, and expressing themselves through the Sacred Humanity, these attributes of God are become accessible to human imagination as well as to human thought. Jesus is the spotless mirror of the Divinity. Therefore, the study of the life of Jesus and His works—the contemplation of His humanity—forms the imaginative background from which the soul forms to itself the spiritual concept of God" (p. 48). We are to assimilate ourselves to Jesus "in thought, in affections, in principles and in ideals—that is, by reproducing in our lives the features of His human life. This paves the way for vital union with the Divinity that is in Jesus" (p. 50). "All sanctity is effected in us by contact with the Sacred Humanity" (p. 176). "With the eye of Faith we must picture Him, to ourselves, according to the dispositions in which He was at the time as revealed to

us by His words on the occasion, or by the words of the Evangelist" (p. 188). "The function of mental prayer, then, as an act of our mind, is to study and contemplate the features of the life of Jesus with a view to reproducing the traits of that life in ourselves and so disposing ourselves to growth in the divine life of grace" (p. 52). "We have only to contemplate and to try to reproduce in ourselves the soul-operations of Jesus Christ, in order to cause the Divine Life planted in us by Baptism to expand and reach its development" (p. 163). "We are meant to pass through the Sacred Humanity, to the Divinity which it veiled and clothed" (p. 132). "Even when engaged in an examination of its own states and dispositions (the soul) must not turn its gaze away from the Lord or lose the sense of His presence. It must examine itself, as it were, through His eyes and in His light" (p. 70). Thus is reached what may be termed spirituality, "a kind of awareness rather than a spiritual sight" (p. 134). God makes His presence felt and then develops the intimacy. And likewise there comes what all seek, happiness (p. 128).

\* \* \* \*

Since the humanity of Christ is the way that leads to union with God it follows that our knowledge of Jesus must be wide and deep. Hence the second work of Father Leen, *In the Likeness of Christ*, being a sequel to *Progress Through Mental Prayer*, unfolds for us the dispositions, the views, the deeds of Jesus. *In the Likeness of Christ* is not a "life" of Christ. Roughly, Father Leen groups the events of the life of Jesus around three clusters—the birth and infancy, the Passion, and the Resurrection. Many touching scenes which reveal the human qualities of Jesus

are omitted. Father Leen writes splendidly out of his previous, deep penetration of philosophy and theology and he does not get away from this framework. He draws certain large principles out of events considered as a whole. He employs deduction rather than induction. For instance, we see the principles taught in the first scene at Nazareth, at Bethlehem, in the visit of the Wise Men, in the flight, and in the hidden life. The public life is opened with Cana because of Father Leen's desire to include Mary as a major factor in the shaping of events.

The basic principle continues to be repeated. "The first step in the spiritual ways is to aim at developing and cultivating a strong personal admiration for Jesus of Nazareth—Who loves to style Himself the Son of Man." By a psychological law, admiration begets love, and love inspires imitation" (p. xiv). "Christ's life in its actual historical aspect cannot be ours; but that life of His, in its inner aspect—in what passed in His heart, His imagination, in His soul and His will, in contact with human circumstances—that, in a certain measure, can be shared by us and therefore can, in a true sense, be ours" (p. xxiii). "For to accept Him as human is not merely to accept Him as man—that He had a body and soul like ours—but it is to accept and to subscribe to all His views on life on earth and His whole theory of human values" (p. 61).

Consistent with his emphasis on self-abnegation and on submission—and his picture of the submissive Christ somewhat obscures the strong, commanding, indignant Christ—much space is devoted by Father Leen to self-denial and to the suffering Christ. "It is astonishing how restraint and mortification sharpen the spiritual vision and make it keenly per-



ceptive of supernatural realities" (p. xxi). "Those who deny themselves valiantly see clearly in the things of God" (p. 88). "It is this obscure but intimate realization that the Passion is not a mere historical contingent fact, affecting one man, but a theory of life applicable to all men, that stirs uneasiness and a species of discomfort in the heart of the thoughtful and honest Christian in face of the Passion and death of Christ. In language of stark and compelling simplicity the Cross expresses the Christian theory of life on earth, namely, that life here below is not a *satisfaction but a purification*" (p. 271). On the negative side of spirituality this final clause is a key to all Father Leen has written, and his words hold true.

We need not be surprised, then, to find that two of the finest chapters in all his works are entitled the *Humility of Christ* and the *Triumph of Failure*. No spiritual writer excels Father Leen in explaining what these two chapters were meant to explain. They have to be read in their entirety to be fully appreciated. "In a word, the perfection of Our Lord's human virtue is derived in a certain sense from the perfection of His humility" (p. 176). To be humble "we must have a perfect understanding of what we are, and of the relations in which we stand to God" (p. 178). Christ's humility consisted in the inner disposition of His Will toward the events of life. Such humility is, of course, not self-depreciation or self-pity, neither is it servility. "It is not thinking little of oneself, it is rather not thinking of self at all" (p. 190). Here, as elsewhere, Jesus is the way to God. "It becomes clear that assimilation to the human character of Jesus is the essential condition of union with God, and that without this assimilation all our efforts to

reach God and enter into union with Him are doomed to failure" (p. 196).

In accepting all of His crosses, in refusing to pity Himself, in daring to fail before the world, Jesus triumphed because He knew His Father's Will and maintained fealty to it. "We fail, not because our wills are irresolute, or our passions strong, but because we allow our intelligence to be obscured as to the meaning and purpose of life" (p. 222-23). We understand our own lives only when we make a study of the life of Jesus. It is not sufficient to examine the externals of that life. We must train ourselves "to think as He thought, . . . to make a study of the interior dispositions of Our Lord" (p. 223). "He saw that God's designs were wrought out, rather by the perfection of His attitude toward these events than through His being concerned with what He actually achieved through His activity . . . It was by His perfect docility to circumstance that He revolutionized circumstance" (p. 227). This is an indication of what the author is attempting to teach through his emphasis on *being great* rather than the gaining of renown as a *doer* or a promoter of a multitude of activities. Although Jesus "flung Himself into His tasks with all the mighty energy of His superb nature, He yet stood strangely aloof from them . . . All His greatness seems to be in the perfection with which He endured each succeeding circumstance—whether that demanded the putting forth of, or the cessation from activity" (p. 229). "It is not what we do that matters in God's eyes so much as how we do it; it is not what we effect that He regards, but what we are" (p. 120-21).

There can be no doubt as to Christ's insistence on the right motives. What

seems to be lacking, however, in Father Leen's interpretation is a full understanding of the meaning of the divine command of love of neighbor. He pictures Christ as perfect in His social relations, but he fails to portray the full social import of Christ's commands. Some of the readers of Father Leen may garner the impression that life is mainly a submission to circumstance and hence that there is no obligation to attempt to alter circumstance. Such is not the author's intention. Yet the splendid portrayal of the submissive Christ leaves in the shade somewhat Christ the Man Who went about doing good.

\* \* \* \*

It has been stated that devotion to the humanity of Jesus is not the final stage in man's approach to God. The re-living of the mental states of Jesus is a preparation for the divinizing of man or his sanctification, which is the work of the Holy Spirit. This process of sanctification forms the content of the third of Father Leen's works, *The Holy Ghost*.

The doctrines of the Church in their explanations must be constantly directed toward meeting the particular drift of any era. The trend in our day is to worship humanity in the concrete, in the organized mass or social collectivity. This error of Naturalism must be met by a more thorough exposition of the doctrine of the supernatural life and all of its startling challenges, and by a greater intensification of that life within ourselves. In their plight, the masses are being trained to look to the State for alleviation. If we examine the outlook and attitudes of the masses from their own point of view we then may realize that a religion "that does not issue in a satisfactory philosophy of life inevitably breeds dissatis-

faction in the souls of the reflective" (p. 11). One of our tasks, then, is to place before these masses the wondrous elevation that God has in store for men and women here and now. "Nothing created can appease the soul's hunger" (p. 13).

Once we understand that God is good in Himself—and Christ is evidence for that—and that God had been good to us, it is possible to see that any creature has only a measure of appeal for man. "God is all 'appeal'—all attractiveness, . . . not simply because there is in Him some particular quality or other which is apt to call forth deep affection, but because there is nothing in Him which is not lovable" (p. 25). The Holy Spirit reveals this attractiveness to those properly prepared. He is the "bond of union between the Father and the Son. He is, as it were, their living embrace. It is His characteristic to be the spirit of union. He fulfills the same role between God and God's rational creatures". His is now the "distinctive work of creating ties between the Creator and the creature—the work of drawing man to God" (p. 68).

The apostles were very much like ourselves. As long as Christ was with them, they indeed regarded Him as perfect but "they regarded His life as uniquely His and incommunicable, as would be the life of any other leader amongst men. They could admire it, but it was *His*. It did not occur to them that His life should and could be theirs" (p. 91). On Pentecost the apostles suddenly realized that Christ's life was indeed to be theirs. The coming of the Holy Spirit explained why the visible Christ had been withdrawn. Now Christ's life began to have its effect on these men. We, too, must realize that by "grace we are empowered to love not only the Man in the Man-God, but even

the God in Him, and that, too, with the love of friendship" (p. 97). "It is the third Person of the Blessed Trinity that by means of sanctifying grace accomplishes this marvel . . . He raises man up to God . . . He places man in a sphere where he can approach to God, and where God, without waiving the rights of His Divinity, can draw near to man . . . By communicating Himself to the soul, (He) makes that soul 'deiform' or like unto God . . . He divinizes the soul. . . . The Holy Ghost having 'humanized' God to effect a community of nature between Creator and creature on the human plane, now divinizes man to effect that community of nature on the divine plane. He has made it possible that God should love us with the love of friendship not only humanly but divinely" (p. 98-99). "The Holy Ghost enables us to rise to the energy and nobility of God's life" (p. 120). "For God to give us His love is to give us the Holy Ghost" (p. 143). Hence, He is God's supreme Gift to us.

The sanctifying effect of this new Presence within us must not be confused with human goodness or with a mere increase in our own moral goodness. Rather, it is something of good arising from divine contact (p. 150-51). This new Presence of God within the soul is likewise distinct from His omnipresence. Sanctifying grace is the cause of this special presence of a divine being in the created spirit (p. 158-59). The difference between the role of Jesus and the role of the Holy Spirit is that "to Jesus fell the task of *pacification*: to the Holy Ghost, that of *sanctification*" (p. 169). In this new mode of being present the Holy Ghost is "invested by God with the role of Ambassador to the court of man's soul" (p. 173). Now God can love souls with the

love which He bears toward Himself, "because by the grace of justification they bear a supernatural likeness to Himself" (p. 175). This love we call the love of friendship. It makes the soul "apt for heaven" (p. 177).

Natural goodness is worthy of our admiration and we ourselves dare not attempt to be without it in our efforts to attain the supernatural. The task is ours, at the same time, of attempting to appreciate the privilege that God has bestowed on us. We must know that "'gracefulness' and mere ethical goodness are not the same thing" (p. 247). Grace is a "real physical supernatural quality inhering in the soul, not making the soul simply good, but making it, in a sense, divine" (p. 248). Grace has been called "a certain likeness to the Divinity shared in by man". When the rational creature is said to participate in the divine nature we must not think of a fraction of that reality which is God Himself being given to us. Participation in the divine nature does mean that "there is wrought in the creature, by the action of God, a *perfection* which bears a resemblance to, is modelled on, and has its source and principle in the *divine nature* itself" (p. 253).

Such is the great mystery, the infinite bounty, the divine plan of God that outdistances any dream of man. The loneliness of man, his craving for companionship, his constant desire to be great—all these have been provided for through God's love. He who is in the state of grace knows that he is in the state of friendship with God. His prayer is that the Holy Ghost may deepen and direct that friendship.

\* \* \* \*

The book which we are now to consider, *Why the Cross?*, seems to stand

distinct from the others. It has no token of immediate relation to the works discussed thus far. It is to be expected that there will be some recurrence of familiar themes, especially in the portrayal of the human intellect and the human will and emotions of the Nazarene. But, considered in itself, the book may be said to be a treatise on the problem of happiness and suffering.

Man desires to be great; he constantly yearns for happiness, but it is of prime importance that his idea of happiness be a correct one (p. 22). Man has often been defeated in his efforts to discover how to be happy, yet he continues to long for a theory that will result in fulfillment of his desires (p. 78). The true theory is indeed within the view of man but, because of the human habit of identifying suffering and pain with unhappiness most men fail to arrive at the correct plan of interior joy.

It is wrong to think that the happiness possible on this earth "is essentially different from the happiness of eternity" (p. 31). Even earnest Christians may misconceive the idea of heaven. Life after death consists "in the soul's knowing intuitively the Supreme Reality and in loving the Absolute Good. To live, for a rational creature, is to know and to love. To live most perfectly is to know most intimately and to love most intensely the Supreme Object of knowledge and love. Happiness, and the ideal life for man, are synonymous terms. To live fully—to live to man's utmost capacity as man—is to be supremely happy" (p. 42-43). Here is the Aristotelian, the philosophical influence manifesting itself in the views of our author.

The Christian solution of life, which Aristotle was not able to achieve, is that

happiness and suffering are not mutually exclusive. This is the consoling truth taught by the Man of Galilee. Suffering is not God's invention; man has brought it upon himself. Suffering, from man's point of view, is an insoluble problem. However, God became man in order to inform the human race that suffering need not prevent happiness from reigning in the human heart. Besides His mission of expiation, rendering satisfaction to God and meriting grace, Christ, having restored men to life, "had to teach them a philosophy of living. He taught that the happiness obtainable on earth was to be found only in the spiritual life, that is, the life of intimate union with God" (p. 178-79). "Christ has not only died for His brethren, He has also lived for them" (p. 194). His manner of living is a solution offered by God Himself to man's plight in his search for happiness.

Man must of course meet God on the supernatural level or he will not understand God (p. 65). As we delve into the fact of Christ's suffering and into His manner of living we see that He "was happy because He saw God. He makes men happy by bestowing on them the power to share His vision" (p. 82). "The vision enjoyed by Christ is participated in by those who share His cross" (p. 88). Hence man only falls into a worse pit of despair when he runs away from suffering. He must learn to take up his daily crosses. The paradox of the Gospel is that we must sacrifice life to gain life. The Cross gives life through death (p. 94). That means, of course, death to oneself, to one's selfish inclinations. "It is bitter for man to learn that the main obstacles to his happiness are to be found in himself rather than in his circumstances" (p. 97-98).



Man has sought to glorify himself and has ended by filling his life with fears, with complexes. Jesus the Man is the spur and the means offered to man for the overcoming of his fear of suffering. Jesus enlightens man on what kind of man he is to become. "In becoming what he ought to become he serves and glorifies his Maker" (p. 125). When we look at the saints we see that they "serve God rather by what they have become than by what they have done" (p. 126). The saints were in the fullest sense men. So modern man must first seek to be man in the complete sense of the term, that is, he must live his life in conformity to reason. Even on the elevated plane of the supernatural he must still be reasonable but now His reason has been penetrated with the light of faith. God "cannot deify the unmanly" (p. 127). Men do indeed experience much difficulty, since the fall, in their efforts to live by reason, yet if they but turn to a careful consideration of the plan of Jesus, they will learn that they still can aspire to greatness. "Jesus does not discourage, He rather stimulates man's desire for greatness. He is ever bidding him to the heights. His ambitions for men are far loftier than the ones they cherish themselves in their most highly colored dreams. He mingles with men in order to point out to them where true greatness lies and by what paths it is reached. There is nothing unwholesome, unmanly, sickly or faint-hearted in His attitude toward things. . . . In His love of true greatness He turned His back on what could not possibly make men great" (p. 203-4).

The spiritual road that is indicated by Jesus does fail to attract many. The smug, self-satisfied but yet restless man must be jolted out of his indifference.

And all of those who substitute feeling for thought will find no great purpose behind life. But the man of discernment will find that Jesus did not live in an ivory tower and that it is not "necessary to quit one's ordinary occupations and to journey into the unknown and the uncharted" (p. 215). Only the seeker, only the man in search for truth will be arrested by Christ.

The Nazarene insists that men cease confusing what they call happiness with the true happiness. Sensuality is not happiness (p. 245). It is difficult not to be materialistic and selfish. Jesus aims to strip us of selfishness in order that we might gain something of greater value. "It is gain, not loss, that is the theme of His exhortations" (p. 250). Jesus is often spoken of as the Man of Sorrows, but the fact is that His sufferings did not disturb the "boundless joy which flowed from this contemplation of God" (p. 258). "Jesus was happy because He was perfect. He was perfect because in Him the human faculties attained their utmost expression. Human imagination, intelligence and will cannot put forth more energy than they did in the Saviour. The operation of these faculties, again leaving aside the consideration of the Beatific Vision, reached in Him a point of perfection that they never gained in unfallen Adam. . . . Hence, Jesus 'lived' ". "He knew the joy of living as no man has yet known it or will know it again" (p. 262-63). Jesus not only employed His intellect on God and God's works but He likewise "loved God with all His strength. To love is to find one's greatest good in another" (p. 277). Nothing could disturb this Man of Galilee because he "ever enjoyed the happiness of knowing that



He was perfectly at one with God" (p. 279). So likewise, the man who takes God's guidance literally, the man who does not reject God's arrangement of circumstances will find an inner contentment. Jesus never uttered any regrets. Obedient always to God and to the rule of reason, He made no mistakes.

Calvary was the supreme test of the God-Man. It was indeed a sacrifice of atonement, but the whole stress cannot be placed on atonement. "The penal character of the Passion remains subordinate to the moral character. It is the moral aspect which gives that great tragedy its sublimity. . . . Essentially Calvary was a magnificent act of obedience" (p. 358). The man, therefore, who in union with Christ accepts his crosses will find happiness. Christ had never sought to please Himself and because He was faithful to that principle He reconciled man with God and at the same time taught to man a philosophy of suffering—acceptance in the spirit of Christ and for the purposes of Christ. The reward for this fealty is not disillusionment, not sourness and pessimism but peace and happiness.

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In the book entitled *The True Vine and Its Branches* we find Father Leen's effort to supply a sequel to *Why the Cross?* His view is that the reward of the sacrifice of Calvary was the formation of the Mystical Body of Christ. In this volume he rounds out and completes his directions for the full spiritual life of the Christian.

We find repeated again the favorite theme that men are to effect contact with God by "effecting contact with the Sacred Humanity of Christ. As incorporated with Him, and only as incorporated with Him, the Divinity was to become accessible to them. Drawn to 'oneness' in

Christ, they are necessarily drawn to 'oneness' with one another" (p. 5). Christ's desire is that all men "should be 'one', because the perfection of their 'oneness' marks the measure in which they participate in the life of grace that He came to communicate to them". Boldly, gigantically, Jesus reached out into the future and aimed at the consolidation of all of mankind into one single, living body, with Himself as its Head. This 'oneness' was to be organic, not numerical (p. 6). There would be needed, therefore, some kind of perpetual presence of Christ amongst mankind cementing them into a unity (p. 8). We would expect, then, something more than a moral unity between Christ and His members.

This mystical presence of Christ or His mystical life on earth began after Calvary. Under the figure of the vine Christ had told the apostles to abide in Him. The branches draw life from the vine and resemble its characteristics. Among the characteristics mentioned by Father Leen as applying to the members of Christ, we see that the Mass expresses their docility, Communion provides food and union, while prayer, a living faith, suffering, spiritual childhood and devotion to Mary help to maintain the life of the vine in its branches.

Examining again the idea of assimilation to Christ from the point of view of the needs of the Mystical Body, we learn from the author that the members "must try to be, in fact, *one spirit* with Him. It is this 'oneness' in spiritual ideal that releases the streams of life accumulated through Christ's merits and permits them to circulate through the soul. To appropriate the mind of Christ is to appropriate the life of Christ" (p. 27). A divine

energy is required for this process. As was seen in the work on the Holy Ghost, this energy is the Holy Spirit, Himself, and His sanctifying grace. The Holy Spirit gives the Mind of Christ to the members.

Just as Calvary was the peak in the signs of submission or obedience on the part of Jesus, so the Mass is the sign of man's surrender to and submission to his Father. On the cross Christ was alone, but in the Mass it may be said that the "total" Christ offers. The members He has formed to Himself are drawn into His priesthood. While there are visible priests with their proper function, Father Leen quotes Pope Pius XI to show the function of the lay priesthood. The visible priests do not act alone in the Mass, for "the whole body of Christians . . . must offer sacrifice for sin both for themselves and for the whole human race" (p. 67-69). Christ, it must be recalled, is both Priest and Victim in the Mass. The aptitude of anyone to be a co-victim with Christ depends on the degree to which he shares the sentiments of Christ, and the most characteristic disposition of the soul of Christ was submission. "The more perfect the submission to the Will of God, on the part of the Christian, the more truth there is in the Mass as far as he, personally, is concerned" (p. 74).

Just as sacrifice is the means of man's approach to God in the sacramental order, so Holy Communion is God's manner of approach to man. Holy Communion is considered here mainly in its social aspects, that is, as the principle of unity among the members of Christ (p. 79). This sacrament is intended to work powerfully to counteract the "virulent 'egoism' by which a man clings inordinately to himself, to his own natural well-

being, to his own will, and to his own judgments. . . . Fallen man is an intense individualist" (p. 87-88).

Prayer should have as its purpose the obtaining of a clear idea of what we need rather than what we want (p. 117). One of the main themes of true prayer is the "longing that God should replace self in us, and substitute His life for our own" (p. 124).

In the matter of a living faith that is proper to the members of Christ, reason and prudence do indeed have their function to fulfill, yet "Christ's religion is far more than an excellent philosophy. Philosophy aims only at excellence of nature. The ethics of Jesus are essentially supernatural. His teaching is not a code but a life" (p. 137). Hence, faith will sometimes dictate a line of policy to which reason might not aspire. We must be "faith-full" or "grace-full".

While considering the sufferings of the Mystical Body we should be circumspect and somewhat hesitant to assert that suffering is a blessed thing or that pain is an ennobling discipline. "Suffering is not necessarily a good, nor human well-being necessarily an evil" (p. 150). The Christian may never run away from suffering, but on the other hand "there was not in Jesus any morbid love of suffering for its own sake, or of hardship, or of want" (p. 155). Jesus "braced Himself to endure the horrors of the Passion. Christ, in a sense, did not choose the Cross. He bore it willingly. It was God the Father that chose and decreed the way of the Cross as the way of man's salvation. Christ accepted the choice" (p. 156). "Hence, although Christianity exalts the Cross, it is not a worship of sorrow" (p. 163). Our own sufferings, if they are to

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## The Guidance Section of the High School Library

By SISTER M. ILDEPHONSE, S.S.N.D., Librarian,  
Messmer High School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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Today, guidance is a widely-used term with various meanings. According to its aim, it may mean guidance in the form of personal help or advice whether religious, moral, social, vocational or occupational. In some high schools, it means only what is done for the student in the way of personal advice. In others, it includes, besides personal advice, the sum-total of all available sources of guidance. Again, in some high schools, guidance activities are divided into types: such as, personal, moral, vocational and the like. Still others consider the term guidance to mean specific activities which include such helps as providing assistance to students in the choice of a curriculum, in developing special talents, in overcoming deficiencies, and in cultivating interests regarding the choice of an occupation and helping in the selection of a college or special school.

Religious teachers have always been untiring in the amount of personal interest taken in individual students, especially in their spiritual guidance. Early records show that teachers were aware of the importance of vocational training and guidance. They linked these with the spiritual guidance because, while it is possible to treat them independently, in everyday life they become interwoven and interdependent.

The more we look at the function of guidance, the more we are convinced that guidance is the work primarily of the

homeroom or classroom teacher. However, since only a minimum number of teachers have sufficient training in vocational guidance to carry on the work efficiently, there is need of a great deal of supplementary material to aid them. To do so there should be a guidance section in every high school library. Materials intended for this section should be interesting, comprehensive, varied and up to date.

Students, teachers, principals, as well as the librarian, should participate in collecting material for the guidance section of the library. By sharing this responsibility, a deeper, a greater, a more personal interest will be shown in the subject and a more intelligent use of material will be made.

The need for guidance is readily seen in the constantly changing situations that confront us in every walk of life and at every step in the school program. We are living in a changing world. Scientists tell us that during the last fifty years, man's mechanic powers have multiplied not less than two hundred and fifty times. These and thousands of other changes have a very definite effect upon the lives of individuals, especially upon our young boys and girls today in the high school.

Owing to the progress made in social and economic life during the past quarter of a century, the modern youth is in need of information which will help him to think about the future in a more prac-

tical manner. To supply the need we have organized the guidance program as we have it today and which takes into consideration the facts:

1. That the number of occupations from which the student must choose is rapidly growing;
2. That youth must make a vocational choice at an age when he is inexperienced and immature;
3. That a wise vocational choice is becoming more complicated due to the increasing competition in all fields;
4. That there are many evidences of lack of guidance and consequent overcrowding as well as failures in various occupations;
5. That modern secondary education, by the nature of its demands upon the student, requires elimination of waste in the process of education.

Let us next consider the role of the library and the librarian in supplying the necessary references and aids for this all-essential service that we owe to modern youth in our high schools. First of all, the library needs a collection of up-to-date, interesting, instructive material on employment trends, on educational, vocational and occupational information. A book is naturally the primary source of reference. Two groups of books may, for convenience, be considered here: viz., vocational and non-vocational. There should be a selected group of the most reliable studies of occupations. These books, rather than concentrating on one occupation should preferably deal with many careers, thereby giving the student a broader outlook on the possibilities for his life work. The non-vocational group may be considered by some as supplementary, but, nevertheless, an important

factor in helping the adolescent become acquainted with many fields of activity so that he will make a wise choice of a career. This group includes:

1. Novels and short stories with occupational settings or atmosphere;
2. Stories with nursing, journalism, industrial life, and the like as a background;
3. Good selections of poetry and drama pertinent to a vocation;
4. Biographies and autobiographies of men and women—ideals for youth.

Biography is, without doubt, another enriched source of knowledge of occupational life. There is an untold wealth of biographical and autobiographical material available in books and magazines. Scientific and industrial books usually include biographical sketches. All of the above mentioned types of material give the high school boy or girl a broad survey of the new fields and this frequently leads to interest in a definite career.

Another very valuable as well as popular source of material is the monograph. Occupational and vocational research studies of this type furnish a fund of worthwhile information in very concise, interesting and attractive form. They cover a wide range of occupations. Bulletins of high school courses of study, catalogues of vocational and technical schools, colleges and universities, giving their respective curricula, lists of occupations for which the school prepares the individual and other educational opportunities offered, prove very popular. Careful attention, however, must be given to this type of information in order to keep it up to date with requirements necessary today.

The use of the *Catholic Periodical Index* and *Readers' Guide to Periodical*



*Literature* cannot be overlooked. These are two of the most timely sources of current articles on new and popular fields of work. Other occupational and vocational information is made available through the use of the *Occupational Index* and the *Vocational Guide*. The *Vertical File Service* should not be slighted. Newspapers and many other publications not listed in the indexes carry articles on vocations regularly or at least from time to time.

Local Boards of Trade, Chambers of Commerce, business firms, clubs, and associations are rich sources for studies and information. Service organizations frequently publish articles on vocations in their magazines. Universities and technical schools also publish material which is helpful. Surveys of opportunities from such sources are, as a rule, available for the asking. Leaflets, occupational pamphlets and reports are excellent sources of information, much of which is frequently not available in other forms. In many cases these, too, are free for the asking or for the nominal sum necessary to defray postage and delivery expenses.

Many radio programs and scripts that have been broadcast are available for private use. Indexes and reviews of cultural and educational programs should be in the library. Up-to-the-minute information is available from the two National Broadcasting Companies. The Directory of the U. S. Government Films issued by the U. S. Office of Education lists a goodly number of films on occupational life. Many state departments of education have visual material available for school use. Catalogues of these should be in the vertical file.

In addition to these, there is a rapidly growing interest in the selection and prepa-

ration of visual materials. These are being produced in the form of slides, stereographs, and film strips as well as in the silent and sound films. The photography club or individual students can, with guidance, add to the collection by taking and preparing pictures of vocational and occupational activities.

Posters on vocational topics may be obtained from many agencies and commercial concerns. Homemade posters portraying vocations, encouraging further reading, drawing attention to new material, and general publicity of the guidance section, can all be a co-operative task. Individual students and groups can be brought to play an active part in such projects.

Pictures and clippings illustrating all forms and types of guidance are source material for valuable information. The acquisition of these may be made with little effort on the part of teachers and librarian by encouraging student participation in the building up of the file.

The study of local industries and student interviews with workers can be made a valuable asset if a well-planned questionnaire is used on trips to factories, shops and industries. Records of these field trips, if well organized, will give an insight into working conditions, requirements, etc., as a result of actual contact and should, therefore, find a place in the file for future use.

The librarian's problem is only partly solved with the acquisition of an abundance of material from the various sources mentioned. This wealth of guidance information makes it necessary to be selective. The various types of material and information must be easily accessible when Mary and John come in with their problems. These problems may deal with



the choice of a college, obtaining a scholarship, or securing local information and facts concerning an occupation. It is the work of the librarian to consider ways in which the guidance section can be of the greatest help. Possibly the most valuable guide in selecting and judging, will be the frequency with which material is used by pupils and teachers, the questions asked, the interest shown, and the recommendations of the guidance directors. Unless the guidance section is used it will be of no value. Accessible, well-organized and catalogued, it will prove a very practical asset.

The large amount of material on guidance and its related subjects must necessarily involve a detailed classification of the material in the field and the organization of a filing system that will produce desired references with no delay. Some librarians will prefer to treat all pamphlets of any consequence, as books. In this case, the pamphlets are covered with pamphlet binders (which may be home-made), classified, fully catalogued, and prepared for circulation in the usual way, and are placed on the shelves with books on the same subject. In libraries having more shelf room than floor space, it is suggested that all smaller pamphlets and leaflets be marked with the vocational guidance class number and be placed in files or holders on the shelves with books on the subject. Larger and more fragile material, such as mimeographed sheets, articles clipped from magazines and newspapers, abstracts, reprints, pictures and the like must be housed in a vertical file even if it is a carton. Pictures of permanent value should be carefully mounted and properly labeled. Short clippings should be treated in like manner and housed in file folders or envelopes. These should be arranged according to classi-

fication. In a shelf and vertical file combination such as this, it is very important to have cross references on the pamphlet holders and on the folders or envelopes in the vertical file.

If shelf space is limited, everything but books must be housed in vertical files. In either case, an alphabetical card file of the occupations and the material available is very useful. An adequate list of titles carefully selected may be small at the outset when organizing a file. This should grow with the acquisition of new material. Cross references should be made wherever needed and all cards should indicate the location of the material on the shelf and in the vertical file. Care must be taken, however, to avoid dual classification and overlapping. This plan can be worked out to meet the needs of each situation.

The use of this type of material outside the library is difficult to decide. Items that can be readily replaced without cost or with very little cost, and that will stand the wear and tear may be prepared for circulation with book pockets and cards. Other materials should be labeled with a note indicating that they may be used in the library only.

A file of bulletins from universities, colleges, and technical schools, especially within reasonable proximity, is very desirable. Entrance requirements as well as information regarding courses and training offered will thus be available.

Regardless of what system of filing is used, it is important to have a card catalogue of all the material in a library relating to guidance in any form. A complete alphabetical index will prove to be most practical. This would list all occupational references in the library. These

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## That Index Again . . .

By BROTHER THOMAS, F.S.C., Chairman,  
Committee on the *Catholic Periodical Index*

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An outstanding bibliographic tool which has been made possible through the continued encouragement, support and enthusiasm of the members of the Catholic Library Association for the past fifteen years is the *Catholic Periodical Index*. Looking back on the rosy prospects made by the founders, the financial difficulties through which the C.P.I. has passed, the seeming demise and subsequent resurrection of our especial project, the Committee feels that the membership of the Association would be pleased to have at this time a re-statement of its value, a consideration of its present problems and a glance at its probable future.

The *Catholic Periodical Index* has undoubtedly taken its place on the library shelf. Usefulness has been its best selling point. For in the Index one can find with comparative ease all that the leading magazines have published about the problems of the modern world, as well as the passing comment of distinguished Catholic and many non-Catholic writers. Public libraries are seeing clearly the use that can be made of this codified storehouse of material on Catholic topics, and in the seminary, the college and the university, the high school and academy, as well as in convents and communities, this contribution of the Catholic Library Association to the literature of the day has been most welcome. It is a source of excellent bibliographies, of study-club outlines, of papal and episcopal comment, of

religious, educational, social and historical information.

The Committee has seen the Index grow, both in content, appeal and utility. Our subscribers have long since topped the five hundred mark, a mark to which our fondest expectations could not lead us some five years ago. Its continuity, completeness and promptness have been its salient features, marred only by such delays as the war and belated printing schedules have occasioned.

In respect to this last item, we have facts which we are sure the readers of the *Catholic Library World* will understand. The four and one-half-year volume, covering the period from January, 1939 to June, 1943, is an important milestone in the progress of the Index. It would have been possible to bring out the volume before this, had external circumstances lent themselves in the old, peaceful way to the completion of the project. The war, however, has played havoc with numbers of foreign magazines, has very often delayed some American publications and has nearly always caused some break in their continuity. Rather than bring out an incomplete volume, whose missing entries would be glaringly apparent, the Editor has diligently searched and has finally secured an almost perfect coverage of the periodicals indexed. This delay will insure a perfect work, equal in quality to its predecessor. We feel that the publication of so important a

bibliographic tool merits this attention, and that our subscribers will be in accord on this decision.

Payment for this cumulated volume is to be above and beyond the regular subscription rates. Because our rates for the past four years have been too low to pay for the cumulation we have had to take this measure for financing it. The Committee has set the price of the four-and-one-half year volume at twice the rate of a year's subscription. Subscribers prior to July, 1942 will be charged for a year and a half. Subscribers prior to July, 1941 will pay only one year's rate. In effect this will mean an extra year's subscription to the majority of our subscribers.

In April of this year contracts for the cumulation were distributed by the H. W. Wilson Company. After publication, the volume will be mailed and billed to subscribers. If you have overlooked this contract form, your name is not on the list of those to whom the cumulation will be sent. It might be a good thing to check this item against your expenditures in the Spring.

With the completion of the four-and-a-half-year cumulation, the Editor is confronted with the work of beginning the new cumulation. This is the best time to check on the list of periodicals to be listed and on the rates to be charged. Some sixty-four magazines are now listed for indexing. The July-September, 1943 number has already reached your desks. The check lists on which the new rates will be based have been compared and studied. On the basis of suggestions from subscribers and editorial considerations of the proposed journals, fourteen hitherto unindexed periodicals have been listed and are being indexed. We are glad of

this opportunity of recommending these excellent Catholic journals to our reading and buying public and happy to have the chance of making their content available in the Index. The many libraries checking the newly indexed magazines are an indication of their worth and of the value attached to indexing them. The three Canadian French periodicals call for special consideration, in making available to a wider audience in the United States the excellent contributions being made to Catholic thought by our neighbors to the North.

The many libraries that use the lists of periodicals in the various Wilson indexes will do well to investigate the new entries on the C.P.I. list. These are not always new periodicals, but when they are, they will be found on a par with the more established titles. These new approaches to timely topics are indicative of the wide range of modern Catholic thought.

The rate for the new *Catholic Periodical Index* is a rather necessary item for discussion with members of the Catholic Librarian Association who subscribe to the C.P.I. It has been the practice for a long time, seemingly in the interest of building up the subscription list and making the Index known, to charge prices at variance with the good business practice that would enable us to make expenses and to include the cumulated volume as a regular part of the subscription charged on a yearly basis. For the past fifteen years, the Association has had to subsidize the venture, has had to carry through sustaining funds, has had to be most miserly in alloting funds in order to see the project through its financial straits. This carrying the Index through

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## News and Notes

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### PITTSBURGH UNIT

The sixth semi-annual meeting of the Pittsburgh Unit of the Catholic Library Association was held on Sunday afternoon, October tenth, in the library at Duquesne University with Sister M. Hieronyme presiding as chairman. Father Valentine offered the opening prayer and Miss Gertrude Blanchard welcomed the group to the University library.

Very Reverend Felix Fellner, O.S.B., Sub-Prior of St. Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe, and head of the history department of the college, gave the formal address of the meeting. Father Fellner's subject was "Benedictine Medieval Libraries".

At the business meeting which followed, Father Valentine, Chairman of the Nominating Committee for the choice of officers for the next two years, announced the results of the nominations: For Chairman—Sister M. Melania, Librarian, Seton Hill College, Greensburg; Vice-Chairman — Reverend Robert E. Brown, S.M., Librarian, North Catholic High School, N. S. Pittsburgh; Secretary-Treasurer—Reverend Fintan R. Shoniker, O.S.B., Assistant Librarian, St. Vincent College, Latrobe. Election by ballot followed and all of the nominees were unanimously elected.

After the election the Chairman suggested that it might be well for the members to consider two points concerning the election of officers which might be incorporated in the By-Laws at some time in the future:

1st. To save time, provision could be made that the secretary cast the

ballot when only one nominee is presented for each office.

2nd. The By-Laws at present do not specify whether the election should be based on a majority or a plurality vote.

Sister M. Gertrude discussed briefly the Book-of-the-Month Club for Catholic readers as serviced by the Thomas More Library and Book Shop.

Father Ambrose introduced a discussion on Catholic Book Week observance for this year. Sister Melania emphasized the necessity of concerted effort for a successful and economical observance. Father Fintan moved that the newly elected chairman, Sister Melania, appoint at her discretion a committee for planning the Catholic Book Week; Father Ambrose seconded the motion.

### WASHINGTON-VIRGINIA-MARYLAND UNIT

The Washington - Virginia - Maryland Unit of the Catholic Library Association met on Saturday, October sixteenth, in the Fourier Library of the College of Notre Dame of Maryland, Baltimore. The Reverend James J. Kortendick, S.S., President of the Unit, was chairman. After a brief business meeting during which the chairman announced that the Unit had over-subscribed a sustaining membership in the National Association and that a second sustaining membership would be subscribed, he presented Sister Mary Frances, President of the College, who welcomed the group.



The Reverend Andrew L. Bouwhuis, S.J., National President of the Association, gave a stimulating address on the value of the library and the program of the Association. Father Bouwhuis said in part:

"The greatest work before the Church today in America is not charity work, but the 'instruction of the ignorant'. The corporal works of mercy are very important but the spiritual works of mercy are even more pressing at the moment. The intellectual apostolate now is the apostolate 'par excellence', which will of necessity lean heavily upon the library and the librarian. It is encouraging to note the great development of interest in library work, the increase in the number of school libraries and the fact that young people are entering the library profession. Past failures in Catholic libraries is the reason for Catholic backwardness.

"... If we do not have our grade school libraries, we are not going to have a high school reader. Until we start the mothers reading and teaching the children to have a sustained span of interest, we are not going to have good kindergartens and lower grades. Boys and girls who do not know how to read in the fourth grade will not know how to read later on. . . . Any teacher is a scoundrel who would not put all the books he has at the disposal of his students. A good supply of books should be available to every student."

Father Bouwhuis pointed out the following needs of the Catholic Library Association: a larger staff in the executive office of the Association and in particular a full-time executive secretary; organization and a specific program; leaders and a good publicity program. He suggested that the *Catholic Library World* should

discuss more particular Catholic problems, that it should be enlarged by sixteen pages at least, and that it should either include a special section for school libraries or publish a second periodical treating school library material.

The speaker led a discussion on the *Catholic Periodical Index* and recommended that the members of the Association should make an effort to extend its use particularly in Catholic libraries. Further suggestions were that the Association place special emphasis on library fields which have been neglected, namely, hospital, parish and elementary school library service.

Miss Mary Kiely, Director of the Pro Parvulis Book Club, announced the good news that the Club, recently compelled to cease operation for financial reasons, has been re-organized financially and will continue its service.

The Reverend Francis J. Byrne, D.D., Diocesan Superintendent of Schools, Richmond, Virginia, extended an invitation to the Unit to hold its next meeting in Richmond.

Father Kortendick announced the new officers for the coming year: President, Mr. Phillips Temple, Riggs Memorial Library, Georgetown University, Washington; Vice-President, Reverend Hugh J. Phillips, Librarian, Mount St. Mary's College, Emmitsburg; Secretary, Miss Rosabelle Kelp, Order Librarian and Secretary, Mullen Memorial Library, Catholic University, Washington.

#### LIBRARY SCHOOL EXTENSION

The University of Portland, Portland, Oregon, has completed arrangements with Rosary College of River Forest, Illinois, for an extension of the Department of Library Science to the University of Portland. The faculty of Rosary College,



headed by Sister M. Reparata, O.P., Director of the Department of Library Science, will go to the campus of the University next summer.

Up to the present there has been no accredited Catholic school of library science west of the Rocky Mountains so it is expected that students will be drawn from all of the western states and Canada. The Extension is open only to Religious men and women and classes will begin with the opening of the summer session in June, 1944. Students who successfully complete the work may earn a degree in Library Science by attending the sessions during five summers. The degrees will be conferred by Rosary College.

#### COUNCIL OF NATIONAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS

At a meeting of the Council of National Library Associations, held November sixteenth, the joint committee on the rehabilitation of devastated libraries, representing twelve Associations, appointed a steering or exploratory committee whose membership has not yet been made public. This Committee will see what is being done and what can be done in the field and will report to the joint committee, if possible, before the first of the year. Brother Thomas, F.S.C., Librarian at Manhattan College, New York, represented the Catholic Library Association at the meeting.

#### SECOND DOWNEY AWARD

The Committee for the Annual Downey Award have announced that the author of the book selected as the Award book for this year will be honored on December eighth with the presentation of the silver medal which is awarded for the "finest American children's book written in the Catholic tradition". The award will be made under the auspices of the

Pro Parvulis Book Club. Last year's Downey Award was the first. It went to Covelle Newcomb for her biography, *The Red Hat*. The Downey Award is named for Father Francis X. Downey, S.J., founder of the Pro Parvulis Movement.

#### WILLIAM THOMAS WALSH HONORED

William Thomas Walsh, eminent Spanish historian and writer, has been informed that the Spanish government has awarded him the Cross of a Commander of the Order of Alphonsus X for his three monumental Spanish biographies, particularly for his most recent, *Saint Teresa of Avila*. Released two months ago by the Bruce Publishing Company, the book has already gone into its third large printing.

#### CATHOLIC PRIZE NOVEL COMPETITION

The Bruce Publishing Company, Milwaukee, and the Extension Magazine, Chicago, have announced joint sponsorship of the first Catholic prize novel competition. Beginning December 1, 1943 and closing May 31, 1944, the competition offers a cash award of \$500, serialization in *Extension* at the fixed rate of \$100 per installment and publication in book form by the Bruce Publishing Company on a royalty basis of ten per cent on the first 10,000 books sold, to the prize-winning manuscript.

The competition is open to all citizens of the United States and Canada, Catholic or non-Catholic, whether or not they have a previous book published. Manuscripts, however, must be hitherto unpublished and entered by an author at least twenty years of age.

Manuscripts submitted must be not less than 70,000 words and not longer than 80,000 words. Further information and entry blanks may be obtained from Mr.

Robert C. Broderick, fiction editor at Bruce's, or Miss Eileen O'Hayer, associate editor of *Extension*.

### CATHOLIC BOOK WEEK ACTIVITIES

Chairmen of local and regional programs sponsored during Catholic Book Week are requested to send a report of activities to the Editor for publication in *The Catholic Library World*.

### REVEREND DR. EDWARD LEEN

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purify us, must be borne in the spirit manifested by Christ.

It is remarkable that in the courage and faith demanded by us there is always required the highest type of manhood. "It is by shaping himself to the manliness of the Man-God that the Christian co-operates in the evolution of the divine life in his soul. . . . Deification is God's work; but we dispose ourselves for it" (p. 168-69). "That 'oneness' with the human way of Jesus is proportioned to the care the Christian takes to express in his dealing with God, his fellowmen and himself, the teaching of the Divine Master" (p. 171).

While mortification, self-denial and suffering receive constant and repeated emphasis in the works of Father Leen, one notes at the same time a splendid balance and prudence in his treatment of the subject of asceticism. His sobriety is derived from his close observation of the life of Jesus, though he inclines more to the submissive Christ than to the powerful, commanding, forceful Christ. Asceticism is essential because "self-abnegation is the checking, the inhibiting, the nullifying of the inclination to gravitate toward self as the centre of life's movements" (p. 186). The author distinguishes very well between self-denial and

mortification. Likewise he shows that self-denial must "in no sense, be confounded with self-repression" (p. 211).

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Had Doctor Leen been schooled in the modern natural sciences and in the larger outlook of scientific Christian charity and social work he would have given us the Christlike elevation of these disciplines. He would have drawn from Christ's life principles which would assist us in winning over to God these modern achievements. As it is, his works merit top rank in spiritual literature. As he traces the Way and the Truth and the Life he effectively raises all sincere readers up to Christlikeness. The books here considered all merit perpetuity.

### Bibliography

- Church before Pilate.* Preservation Press, 1939. 78p.  
*Holy Ghost and His work in souls.* Sheed and Ward, 1937. 341p.  
*In the Likeness of Christ.* Sheed and Ward, 1936. xxiv, 361p.  
*Progress through mental prayer.* Sheed and Ward, 1935. x, 276p.  
*True vine and its branches.* Kenedy, 1938. x, 268p.  
*Why the Cross?* Sheed and Ward, 1938. 366p.

### THAT INDEX AGAIN . . .

(Continued from page 83)

on a shoestring has had its repercussions in actually higher costs to the subscriber than might have been necessary had charges been according to the Wilson service rates and included the yearly percentage to cover the cost of the eventual cumulation.

The Committee will endeavor to do that this year. Prices must not only be higher to meet actual increases in costs, but to pay the salary of the Editor and to set aside a sufficient reserve to meet the four year cumulation, due in 1948.

The Committee hopes that subscribers will realize this when they are presented

with the new rates. Strive as we will, we cannot make the C.P.I. an inexpensive venture. There need be no untoward uneasiness, however. The rates will be good business rates. There will be a minimum that our smallest schools can meet; there will be a top rate not too staggering to the subscribers getting the most use out of the material. The majority of the rates will be in the fifteen and twenty dollar class, where subscribers to fifteen to twenty magazines can see an annual investment averaging one dollar per magazine for the service, convenience, and promptness in expert indexing they are accustomed to obtain. We know that they will realize fully the utter impossibility of having this indexing done in their own libraries at so low a figure. Not only are experienced people difficult to find today, but expenses of materials, problems of card space, as opposed to the convenient book form, make the Index an economic godsend.

With gratitude for past co-operation, a pledge of continued good service, and a sincere trust in the continued support of its subscribers, the C.P.I. begins a new volume for the service of an ever-widening and appreciative clientele.

#### GUIDANCE SECTION OF THE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

(Concluded from page 81)

would be entered under author and occupation, and would include all the material on the shelves as well as that in the vertical file, page references, etc. Stories, biographies, and other literary material on particular occupations could be included or, the librarian may prefer a supplementary file. These are very convenient and helpful to the students. Films, slides, and other visual aids as well as posters and display material which is the property of the library should also be

listed. It may be very helpful to keep in this index, other references that may be of interest but are not in the library. The source of these should be indicated on the cards. Sources of films, slides and other illustrative material should also be included. Cross references are essential for complete and practical use.

As helps to the spiritual guidance of the students, a collection of pamphlets, leaflets and other material available regarding the various orders of priests, brothers, sisters and the diocesan clergy should be catalogued and filed in the vertical file. Books on vocations and religious orders, as also the lives of founders and foundresses and prominent members of the various orders should be included in the general index. These all-important sources of information are just what many of our boys and girls are eagerly seeking.

Helpful aids to the librarian in building up a guidance section in the high school library are many and varied. Only a few of the more practical ones will be cited here in the hope that they will be of help to librarians who do not have a guidance section in their libraries, or who are just beginning to establish one.

Commonwealth Book Company. *Monographs. Institute for Research. Career. Career Monographs.* 1932-

Kitson, Harry D. *I Find My Vocation.* McGraw, 1931.

Lingenfelter, Mary R. *Vocations in Fiction.* American Library Association, 1938.

Morgan, Vera E. *Vocations in Short Stories.* American Library Association, 1938.

Science Research Associates. *America's Major Occupations.*

"Odes to Occupations." *Occupations*, vol. 13. January, 1935.

*Vocational Guidance Digest.*

*Vocational Trends Monthly.*

Visual Material—Society for Visual Education. Erpi Classroom Films. Long Island City.

Vocational Guidance Films. Des Moines, Iowa.

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# Best Sellers<sup>1</sup>

## A MORAL EVALUATION OF CURRENT FICTION AND NON-FICTION

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*This list evaluating current best sellers has been prepared by the Editors of BEST SELLERS, a bi-weekly review published at the University of Scranton. Full information on any book mentioned below may be obtained by purchasing the issue in which the original review appeared. The price per issue is ten cents. Send orders and remittance to: BEST SELLERS, UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON, SCRANTON, PA.*

### Explanation of abbreviations:

NF—Non-fiction  
BM—Book of the Month selection  
CB—Catholic Book Club selection  
CC—Crime Club selection  
IS—Inner Sanctum Mystery  
LG—Literary Guild selection  
SB—Scientific Book Club Selection

### I. Recommended for Family Reading

Adams. The American (NF)  
Bell. Condition red (NF)  
Carroll. Dunnybrook  
Chamberlin. The Russian enigma (NF)  
Curie. Journey among warriors. (NF)  
DeVoto. Year of decision, 1846 (NF; BM—Apr. 1943)  
Douglas. The robe  
Forester. The ship  
Gilligan. The ringed horizon  
Hay. Malta epic (NF)  
Hecht. Miracle in the rain  
Holt. George Washington Carver  
Kimbrough. We followed our hearts to Hollywood (NF)  
Lincoln. The Bradshaws of Har-niss  
Nathan. But gently day  
Navy at war (NF)  
O'Hara. Thunderhead  
Peattie. Journey into America (NF)

Pyle. Here is your war (NF)  
Saroyan. The human comedy (BM—Mar. 1943)  
Shiber. Paris-Underground (NF; BM—Oct. 1943)  
Spellman. Action this day (NF)  
Train. Yankee lawyer  
Walsh, W. St. Teresa of Avila (NF; CB—Sept. 1943)  
Wilson. Stalk the hunter (IS—Oct. 1943)  
Wolfert. Torpedo 8  
Woolcott. Long, long ago (NF; LG—Dec. 1943)  
Wriston. Challenge to freedom (NF)

### II. Recommended for Adults Only Because of: Content and Style Too Advanced for Adolescents:

Abend. My life in China  
Andrews. Under a lucky star (NF; SB—Sept. 1943)  
Beard. The republic (NF)  
Cassidy. Moscow dateline, 1941-1943 (NF)  
Cross. Connecticut Yankee (NF)  
Fosdick. On being a real person (NF)  
Johnson. American heroes and hero-worship (NF)  
Lawson. Thirty seconds over Tokyo (NF; BM—Aug. 1943)  
Lesueur. Twelve months that changed the world (NF)  
Lin Yutang. Between tears and laughter (NF)  
Lippmann. U. S. foreign policy (NF; BM—July, 1943)  
Miller. Origins of the American revolution (NF; BM—Aug. 1943)  
Ottley. New world a-coming (NF)  
Seagrave. Burma surgeon (NF)

<sup>1</sup> Abridged Service, No. 19

Shapley. Treasury of science (NF)  
 Swing. Preview to history (NF)  
 Taylor. Men in motion  
 Van Paassen. The forgotten ally  
 (NF)  
 Ward. Gilbert Keith Chesterton  
 (NF; CB—Oct.)  
 Willkie. One world (NF)

### **Immoral Incidents Which Do Not Invalidate the Book as a Whole:**

Allen. Forest and the fort  
 Benét. Western star (NF; BM—  
 July, 1943)  
 Bromley. Clear the track (NF)  
 Browne. See what I mean?  
 Buck. The promise  
 Daniels. Muller Hill  
 Darrow. You're sitting on my eye-  
 lashes  
 Flavin. Journey in the dark  
 Graham. Our way down East  
 (NF)  
 Haugland. Letter from New  
 Guinea (NF)  
 Herbert. Capricornia  
 Idell. Centennial summer (LG—  
 Aug. 1943)  
 Ingersoll. The battle is the pay-  
 off (NF)  
 Janeway. The Walsh girls  
 McMeekin. Red Raskall  
 Marquand. So little time (BM;  
 Aug. 1943)  
 Ostenso. O river, remember (LG  
 —Oct. 1943)  
 Partridge. Excuse my dust (NF)  
 St. George. % Postmaster (BM—  
 Oct. 1943)  
 Schrag. The locusts  
 Scott. God is my co-pilot (NF)  
 Seifert. Those who go against the  
 current  
 Sousa. My family right or wrong  
 Spalding. Love at first flight (NF)  
 Stuart. Taps for Private Tussie  
 (BM—Dec. 1943)  
 Teilhet. Retreat from the Dolphin  
 Zara. Against this rock

### **III. Unsuitable for General Reading But Permissible for Discriminating Adults**

Adamic. My native land (NF)

Bottomo. Survival  
 Bromfield. Mrs. Parkington  
 Caldwell. The Turnbills  
 Carlson. Under cover  
 Coryn. Goodbye, my son  
 Dos Passos. Number One  
 Du Maurier. Hungry Hill  
 Fisher. The mothers  
 Glasgow. A certain measure (NF)  
 Hathaway. The little locksmith  
 (BM—Nov. 1943)  
 Hindus. Mother Russia (NF)  
 Hobson. The trespassers  
 Llewellyn. None but the lonely  
 heart  
 Mason. Rivers of glory  
 Moon. The darker brother  
 Rand. The fountainhead  
 River. Malta story (NF)  
 Smith. A tree grows in Brooklyn  
 (LG—Sept. 1943)  
 Weston. Indigo (LG—Nov. 1943)

### **IV. Not Recommended to Any Class of Reader**

Asch. The apostle  
 Baum. The weeping wood  
 Caldwell. Arm and the darkness  
 Chase. In bed we cry  
 Davenport. Valley of decision  
 Farrell. My days of anger  
 Hale. Prodigal women  
 Hughes. Retreat from Rostov  
 Kenyon. The golden feather  
 Kroll. Rogues' company  
 Lodwick. Running to Paradise  
 McHugh. I am thinking of my  
 darling  
 Marshall. Great Smith  
 Myers. Out on any limb  
 Ormsbee. Sound of an American  
 Pilgrim. The grand design  
 Seager. Equinox  
 Selby. Starbuck  
 Sinclair. Wide is the gate  
 Smith. Caravan  
 Smith. Life in a putty knife fac-  
 tory (NF)  
 Stegner. Big rock candy mountain  
 Taylor. Chicken every Sunday  
 (LG—May, 1943)  
 Warren. At heaven's gate  
 Whitaker. We cannot escape his-  
 tory (NF)



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## Book Reviews

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*Classification and pay plans for libraries in institutions of higher education.* Prepared by the Subcommittee on budgets, compensation and schemes of service for libraries connected with universities, colleges and teacher training institutions of the A.L.A. Board of Salaries, Staff and Tenure and adopted by the A.L.A. Council, February, 1943. Chicago, American Library Association, 1943. 3 volumes. Vol. I. Non-degree-conferring institutions. Vol. II. Degree-conferring four-year institutions. Vol. III. Universities.

These volumes represent the published reports of studies on standards of classification and pay plans for libraries and institutions of higher education which have been in progress since 1939. The institutions have been divided into three groups as follows: (1) Non-degree-conferring institutions which include junior colleges, two-and-three year normal and teacher training institutions and technical institutions above the high school level that do not confer the Bachelor of Arts Degree; (2) Degree-conferring four-year institutions which grant the Bachelor of Arts Degree and include Liberal Arts Colleges, Teacher Training and other professional colleges; and (3) Universities. Material in each book pertains only to the libraries in that group of institutions. The scope of the project was originally limited to a study of standards concerning library personnel but was enlarged in December, 1940 to include material to make possible the self-evaluation of the library. The entry of this country into the war made it advisable to complete the classification pay plan as soon as possible. Consequently, the publication of the Self-evaluating Score Card with items on building, book stock and special service factors has been postponed until after the war.

The foreword prepared by Professor White clearly states the reasons for better position classification in libraries, large or small. It also points out the need for the continued study of the problem in the light of changing patterns of employ-

ment in society in order to improve standards in the profession whenever necessary under the circumstances.

In general, the plan of organization of contents in each of the volumes is similar. It is interesting to note the use of different colored paper to indicate different parts in each book. This method of separation of contents should prove very helpful to the reader.

As a means of distinguishing between the different types and classes of educational institutions and also the class of readers serviced in each of the groups, the Committee has devised and recommends the use of a special method of measuring the amount of library service required by the given institution. The Committee notes that this *service unit* system has tested exceedingly well and provides a more accurate basis for determining the library service load than the use of *total student enrollment* formerly used as the measure of determination.

Recommendations for minimum standards of service, including the following: (1) Staff organization; (2) Classification and salaries; (3) Working conditions, welfare and economic security; (4) Annual salary budgets; (5) Other standards (books, annual book budget and hours of work), are given for each class of library. Likewise, job specifications for all positions involved are given along with recommendations for minimum salaries in each class.

The Committee notes that "Classification and pay plans cannot be static but must be adjustable and changing to reflect current duties and responsibilities". It also emphasizes that "all the standards set up are *minimum standards*", and "it is expected that average and better than average libraries will exceed these minimum salary schedules for the various grades". These words of caution are commendable and it is hoped that library administrators will give them special consideration. It happens too often that minimum

standards have a tendency to become the maximum standards and thereby serve to defeat the whole purpose of any enlightened program.

In conclusion, these volumes provide a workable approach to the problem of classification of positions in libraries of institutions of higher education and can be recommended to the attention of all librarians and educators for required reading and serious study. There is little doubt that much remains to be done in the matter of library personnel administration. These proposals, if followed, provide the basis of a solution for the establishment of improved personnel standards in our libraries. It is hoped that revisions of these volumes will be issued from time to time as found necessary.

John W. Cronin,

Chief, Card Division, Library of Congress

*Introduction to cataloging and the classification of books.* By Margaret Mann. Second Edition. Chicago, American Library Association, 1943. ix, 276p. \$3.25.

After thirteen years of service here and abroad our basic textbook on the work of the catalog department has been revised. First impressions lead one to the idea that information has been somewhat curtailed or abbreviated, but internal investigation proves that the illusion is caused by the format due to wartime conservation of paper and the use of smaller type. The physical change in no way detracts from the thoroughness of the revision.

Notable changes in the second edition are a reorganization of the materials to achieve a closer coordination of routines and theory in order to provide "a progressive mode of treatment". Information has been shifted from one chapter to another or from one section to another within the same chapter. One example of such a shift occurs in the transition of the second summary of the Decimal Classification (p. 84) from the end of the discussion to the beginning (p. 48) which is the logical order. Another instance of subject coordination is the elimination of unnecessary repetition as instanced by the definition of "Union shelf lists" under "Shelf lists" only, and not again under added copies, as in the first edition. Again, "Union catalog" and "Central distributive division" are allocated to the section on "Kinds of catalogs".

Miss Mann's tendency is to clarify explanations by citing practical policies rather than by mere

critical analysis, and her revision makes generous use of examples to illustrate specific cases. There is also prominent reference to the A.L.A. *Rules for Filing Cards*. Although she does refer to outside sources for model cards to illustrate certain techniques, in the mind of the reviewer, there is need for the incorporation of forms for the unusual techniques, such as authority work, the series card and the changed title. The student of cataloging has access to the supplementary sources for this information but the small library would benefit from its inclusion in the accepted basic work on the subject.

The recency of the revision is pointed up by the inclusion of the co-operative cataloging of the Wilson Company for the Standard Catalog Series, the new L.C. Catalog in book form, and the microfilm—all of recent development.

Librarians, teachers of cataloging, and catalogers agree that although the work is an "introduction", its scope is wide and its appeal, universal. The many up-to-date bibliographies, the practical questions accompanying each chapter, the style of the text and the brevity of some of its explanations, make of the book an excellent cataloging tool.

JOSEPHINE SAVARO,

Marywood College Library.

*Public libraries in the life of the nation.* By Beatrice Sawyer Rossell. Chicago, American Library Association, 1943. 105p. \$1.50.

This is a book that definitely answers a need. In this period of vocational transition many persons are leaving library work for other positions generally offering better salaries. Fewer competent people are entering the profession. In order to attract college people to enter the field of librarianship, Mrs. Rossell has written this attractive survey of the present position of public libraries in the United States; she has made it inspirational, stressing as much the contribution that librarians can and should make as the rewards they will receive. And if librarianship is to be considered as a profession its contribution to the life of the nation must come foremost in our daily thoughts.

To make the account of American library work vital and real the author takes us on a nationwide tour. We go to Rochester, N. Y., to see "a large city library in action"; Kern County, Calif., is the next stop for a look-see at the operations involved in reaching a rural community; the small

town of Jacksonville, Ill., provides an opportunity of analyzing the library's position in a closely, integrated community of diverse cultural interests; Detroit and Ann Arbor are held up to view for their work with schools; in Newark, New York, Chicago and Detroit the work of specialists in business, municipal administration, art and bibliotherapy is mirrored. Then follow summary chapters and lists of accredited library training agencies.

Our only regret is that libraries in educational institutions, especially universities and colleges, were not given their chapters. Mrs. Rossell may have felt these outside her field of experience but this reviewer thinks she would have done them a fine service if one or two chapters of the same calibre as appear here would have been included. We will gladly recommend it to anyone who shows the slightest interest in librarianship.

Eugene P. Willing,  
Co-Editor, *Best Sellers*

*The Chicago Public Library, origins and backgrounds.* By Gwladys Spencer. Chicago, The University of Chicago Press, 1943. xvii, 473p. illus. ports. maps. \$4.50. A43-1583

"Although it (the library movement in America) has grown automatically to some extent, it has also been a direct result of the conscious and determined effort of a relatively few citizens."

The author proves the truth of the words in the introduction by tracing the backgrounds of one of America's great libraries. It is a story of constant pressure exerted by a zealous minority upon the apathy of the majority, pressure first for a book collection, then for a library which would be in some way proportionate to the size and prosperity of the city, then for a free public library. It is a story which takes the reader from the year 1832 when Captain Seth Johnson donated the first book for the first Sunday school library to the end of the year 1874 when Chicago's free public circulating library, just six months old, had four times the circulation of the Boston library which was five years old at that time.

After devoting one chapter to the economic and cultural backgrounds of Chicago, the author traces the rise of various libraries connected with societies (ch. 2-4), library associations and schools (ch. 7-8). Inserted between the histories of these libraries are chapters on the private libraries of Chicagoans and the leaders in the library move-

ment in Chicago. State library legislation and the relation of the public library to the municipal government are treated in chapters 9, 11, 12. Two chapters are devoted to the final flowering of the free public library idea (ch. 10 and 13). Here the Great Fire of 1871 seemed to be the force which brought the dream of years into actuality.

A book of this nature demands extensive research work. How well the author met this demand is evidenced by the copious footnotes and wide use of primary sources. Incidentally the footnotes often provide moments of relaxation in what would otherwise be heavy reading. It is there that we meet the wealthy Scotch broker who considered "anny Mon a Fule who does anything for the Public" and the speaker who "recapitulated by beginning at the last and going back to the beginning; then he gave his logic a pleasing variety by commencing at the middle and leaving off at both ends, and finally at the expiration of fifteen minutes, by starting at each extremity and discontinuing his oratorical effort in the middle".

There are a few printing mistakes which detract little from the fine make-up of the book.

The summary at the end of the chapters, the figures illustrating various phases of the text, the final resume in chapter 14, and the copious index are features which make this volume a worthwhile contribution to the reference shelf of library literature.

G. J. BRINKMAN, O.F.M.,  
St. Joseph's College,  
Westmont, Illinois.

*A handy guide for writers.* By Reverend Newton Thompson, S.T.D. Herder, 1943. 248p. \$2.00.

A handy guide for popular reference, though, as the author explains in his preface, the book will not replace the more comprehensive works of a similar nature. It is rather an attempt to provide in convenient form an answer to the writer's most outstanding perplexities.

The material is alphabetically arranged, and one feature is the grouping of synonyms for discriminating definition, the words in each group being located by means of cross references placed in proper alphabetical sequence. Detailed explanations of the process of indexing and of proofreading are given under their respective entries. No classified approach to subject is provided.

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# New Books

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## BOOK CLUB SELECTIONS

### Catholic Book Club—December

SPELLMAN, FRANCIS J., Abp. *Action this day. Letters from the fighting fronts.* Scribner's, 1943. 256p. \$2.75.

"For six months the Archbishop of New York, who is also Military Vicar of the Armed Forces of the United States, left his well-organized archdiocese in order to fulfill his responsibilities in a personal way to our soldiers, sailors and marines. During his journeying, chiefly by air, he corresponded regularly with his father; in *Action this day* is reproduced that correspondence most of which has previously appeared in *Collier's*."

Best Sellers 3:127

### Biography

KELLER, JAMES and BERGER, MEYER. *Men of Maryknoll.* Scribner's, 1943. 191p. \$2.00. 43-17257

Stories of typical young Americans who have carried on the work of the Maryknoll missionaries in foreign lands amid the added and ever increasing dangers of violent warfare. The heroism of young priests during the fall of Bataan and of Hong Kong are disclosed for the first time.

MORGAN, EDWIN. *Flower of evil. A life of Charles Baudelaire.* Sheed and Ward, 1943. 179p. \$3.00. 43-15408

The life of Charles Baudelaire, French poet and critic of the nineteenth century, is the story of a man who wandered through life blinded by pride and lust, and who died weeping before his mother's crucifix, humbled and reconciled with his God. The story is pathetic when the spirit of independence, the unshaken self-reliance, the self-centered ambition are considered, but inspiring when the magnificence of divine mercy is manifested. Mr. Morgan takes for the title of his brief critical biography the title of Baudelaire's principal collection of poems. These were to have been the culmination of Baudelaire's poetic writings, but involved him in legal proceedings for their alleged immorality, a situation that well represents the mixture of high ambition and miserable failure which characterized the life of the poet.

V. P. Lee, S.J.

TERESA OF JESUS, SAINT. The life of St. Teresa of Jesus of the Order of Our Lady of Carmel, written by herself. Translated from the Spanish by David Lewis, compared with the original autograph text, and re-edited with additional notes and introduction by the Very Rev. Benedict Zimmerman, O.C.D. Fifth edition. Newman Book Shop, 1943. xxxix, 516p. \$3.75.

A reprint of the spiritual autobiography of St. Teresa of Avila, in which the great Mystic, in obedience, explains the marvelous revelations she had received concerning prayer and perfection. Factual biographical details are supplied in the Introduction.

### History

ISWOLSKY, HELEN. *Soul of Russia.* Sheed and Ward, 1943. 200p. \$2.75. 43-16644

This is an outline of the spiritual history of Russia and an interpretation of Russian religious culture and tradition. The author reveals the soul of Russia as being essentially Christian, and utterly hostile to the alien importation of Communism, which, from the beginning, the Russian people vigorously opposed.

The little volume is recommended as a brief introduction to the Russian character. There are some sharp cameos of key Russian thinkers from the beginning of the Christian era. Miss Iswolsky, daughter of the late distinguished Russian diplomat, has been associated with the "Esprit" and Jocist groups in France, and a collaborator of Nicholas Berdiaeff. She is at present lecturing in the United States and Canada.

Joseph T. Durkin, S.J.

### Juvenile

ALLEN, ADAM. *Water to burn.* Illustrated by Juan Oliver. Lippincott, 1943. 271p. \$2.00.

Sandy Marden's longing to live in the country is satisfied when his parents purchase a dear little place through which a brook runs. But Sandy finds that there are drawbacks: the brook misbehaves and the neighbors are unfriendly. Attacking the one problem with



hard work and the other with patience and tact, he succeeds in achieving the life of his dreams. Character delineation goes hand in hand with a decidedly interesting story.

BARBOUR, RALPH HENRY. *Mystery on the Bayou*. Appleton-Century, 1943. 237p. \$2.00.

Milk mystery and adventure story for ten to fifteen year old boys. Good.

BEDIER, JULIE. *A horse for Christmas*. Pictures by Louise Trevisan. Longmans, 1943. \$1.00.

The latest story in the adventures of Anna at Lo-Ting in China.

CHOATE, FLORENCE and CURTIS, ELIZABETH. *The five gold sovereigns*. A story of Thomas Jefferson's time. Illustrated by the authors. Stokes, 1943. 207p. \$2.00. 43-13833

Anne Farnsworth, fired with the enthusiasm and determination shown by her neighbor, Thomas Jefferson, in the cause of liberty, devised a plan whereby she could earn five gold sovereigns to offer as her mite for victory. How she adhered perseveringly to her purpose and triumphed over inconvenience and discomfort is told in this story. Attractive and pleasant reading.

NEWMAN, GERTRUDE. *Polly Poppingay, milliner*. (Written) in collaboration with Edith Patterson Meyer. Illustrated by Grace Paull. Lippincott, 193. 226p. 43-13935

The artistic aspirations of Polly Poppingay, a little girl at the beginning of this century, turned naturally to hats when an invitation brought her to her aunt's millinery shop in the big city of Cleveland. Her hats for dolls, trimmed with ribbons and plumes, feathers and flowers, competed in design with the hats for grown-ups in her aunt's establishment. Indeed, Polly soon set up a business of her own, filling orders, arranging window displays, and announcing special sales. One need not be particularly interested in sewing and designing to relish this story. Any girl from nine to twelve will find that, like Polly, she has special aptitudes which may be profitably developed.

ROGERS, FRANCES and BEARD, ALICE. *Paul Revere, patriot on horseback*. Stokes, 1943. 215p. \$2.00. 43-13007

Paul Revere's story can never be dull or monotonous. It is brimful of action from his early boyhood on the waterfront of Boston through his apprenticeship with a silversmith. The climax is reached when he makes his momentous midnight ride upon which hangs the fate of the nation. Such a book will engender in boys and girls a love for history.

Facts as well as personalities which will be met with again and again in future reading are clearly delineated.

WINDEATT, MARY FABYAN. *My name is Thomas*. Illustrated by Sister Jean, O.P. St. Meinrad, Indiana, The Grail, 1943. 87p. \$1.00.

In which St. Thomas Aquinas tells the story of his life from childhood until after his death, recalling the most familiar incidents for the young reader from twelve to fifteen years.

ZARCHY, HARRY. *Let's make more things*. Knopf, 1943. Pp. 158. \$1.75.

A sequel to his *Let's make something*, this is even more practical in scope because only materials available under priority rulings are used in addition to being inexpensive. It is excellently illustrated and the calligraphic hand written type makes the volume distinctive. Tools and materials needed are described, then objects made of wood, paper, papier-mache, soap, clay, plaster of Paris. Nature study equipment is especially well done. For children ten to eighteen.

### Literature

RAUSCHER, REV. JOHN J., S.M. *The Virgin of Nazareth and other poems*. Benziger, 1943. 175p. \$2.00.

Father Rauscher provides ample material for reflection and meditation in the religious poems which make up this little volume. In the nine groups are included poems on Our Lady and her Rosary, Our Divine Saviour, the Holy Eucharist, the Sacred Heart, God's attributes, the four last things, Old Testament scenes, and finally a set of narrative poems. In addition to presenting the mysteries of our faith, the author has succeeded in fashioning more than a few beautifully poetic passages—"At Eventide", "David and Jonathan"—to mention only two.

V. P. Lee, S.J.

### Philosophy

SHEEN, FULTON J. *Philosophies at war*. Scribner's, 1943. 200p. \$2.00. 43-16182

There are two great conflicts in the world today. A conflict of arms and a conflict of ideas. The one is a war; the other a revolution. Involved in this revolution are three great philosophies of life: the Totalitarian, the Secularist and the Christian. The world must now decide which of these philosophies is to prevail. Herein lies the essence of the greater of these conflicts, and herein, too, lies the thesis of this book. Written in the engaging, rhetorical style of Monsignor Sheen, it makes good reading and would, we suspect, make even better listening. It is a book definite in its facts, definite in its warnings and definite in its constructive program. Who could ask for more!

Rev. Thomas J. Cawley

### Religion

**Catecismo de la primera communion.** Preparado según la edición revisada del catecismo de Baltimore. St. Anthony Guild, 1943. 40p. \$0.05.

English and Spanish on opposite pages.

E. P. W.

**O'BRIEN, REV. JOHN A.** *The priesthood in a changing world.* Revised edition. St. Anthony Guild Press, 1943. xiv, 326p. \$2.50. 43-15112

This new and revised edition should receive a welcome as warm and as universal as was accorded the first edition. Once again it presents the ideals of the priesthood in the light of contemporary needs and against the background of a changing world. It considers problems affecting the pastoral ministry and then offers not untried theories but solutions already successfully employed by some of the most outstanding prelates of our day. Dr. O'Brien has written a readable, practical, challenging book for a priesthood that has survived many changes and must prepare for many more.

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**O'RAFFERTY, NICHOLAS.** *Instructions on Christian doctrine: Prayer, precepts of the Church, sin and its kinds, virtues.* Bruce, 1943. viii, 300p. \$3.25. 38-955

In this fourth volume, the last in the course of *Instructions on Christian Doctrine*, the author treats of prayer, first, in general, then he analyzes the petitions of the Lord's Prayer and the words of the Hail Mary; the precepts of the Church; sin and its kinds, dwelling at length on each of the capital sins; virtue: those virtues that oppose the capital sins, and the theological virtues. As in the previous volumes the text abounds in Scriptural references. A useful appendix cites the instructions from the four volumes as appropriate to the Sundays and Holydays of the ecclesiastical year.

**Victory and peace.** National Catholic Welfare Conference, 1943. Pp. 19.

Statement issued by the archbishops and bishops of the United States, No. 14, 1942, with supplements carrying three papal pronouncements.

### Sociology

**LA FARGE, JOHN, S.J.** *The race question and the Negro.* Longmans, 1943. 315p. \$2.50.

The author of this comprehensive "study of the Catholic doctrine on interracial justice" has enriched his knowledge, gained by years of profound study of this subject, with extensive experience. His book crystallizes the topic discussed, presents the theoretical data, outlines the issues, describes the solutions and

indicates throughout the Church's interest. Policy and theory are adequately supplemented by facts and figures. Among the issues specifically treated are "Segregation", "Race Prejudice", "Intermarriage", and international racism. The value of this work is enhanced by the copious index and the annotated, carefully selected bibliography, which provides an excellent guide for the beginning of an interracial bookshelf.

J. Eugene Gallery, S.J.

**NAUGHTON, JAMES W., S.J.** *Pius XII on world problems.* America Press, 1943. 199p. \$2.00. 43-16167

What does today's Pope say about today's problems today? There is a ready answer to this question in the numerous utterances, public and private, released from the Vatican. Yet their very number presents a difficulty. The entire doctrine of Pius XII must be culled from a multitude of documents, and the unified whole might be obscured in the shuttle from reference to cross-reference and back again. This book assembles with painstaking care in a unifying synthesis the pronouncements of the Pope on questions that are agitating the world. The war and its causes, peace and reconstruction, related problems concerning the State, marriage, education, social security are all discussed with striking clarity and thoroughness. This is a significant volume in the history of the Vatican's political and social thought. It is recommended without reserve to study-clubs, to professors of history, to our leaders in national life, to everyone who is anxious about the years to come. Pius' answer to world problems is here, clear, concrete, challenging.

Michael F. Maher, S.J.

**Two basic social encyclicals: On the condition of workers, Leo XIII and Forty years after, On reconstructing social order, Pius XI.** Latin text with English translation approved by the Holy See. Washington, D. C., The Catholic University Press; distributed through Benziger Bros., Inc., 1943. 195p.

Latin and English texts on opposite pages.

### Travel

**O'FAOLAIN, SEAN.** *An Irish journey.* Specially illustrated by Paul Henry. Longmans, 1943. 308p. \$3.50. A42-1679

Those who are familiar with the west country of Ireland will read Sean O'Faolain's book with keen interest. In *An Irish journey* he gives a picturesque and often poetic account of each little town he visits, and he recalls prominent historical persons. The book is informative and entertaining and will be welcomed by the Ireland-loving folks in this country.

Frank J. O'Hara

